

Region 7 Resource Library Directors Meet

by Beryl Glitz

ARIZONA

CALIFORNIA

HAWAII

NEVADA

PACIFIC BASIN

The annual meeting of the region's Resource Library Directors was held at UCLA on September 18, 1997. Below are some of the highlights of the discussion.

RELAIS: Martha Fishel, Deputy Chief, Public Services Division at the National Library of Medicine, provided a demonstration and led discussion of RELAIS, the system which NLM has recently adopted to handle ILL journal requests. Ms. Fishel also provided some background information on recent changes to DOCLINE, and the various benefits to Network Libraries from NLM's use of RELAIS which include:

- same day receipt of DOCLINE requests that reach NLM
- faster delivery time
- better quality documents
- more accurate request tracking
- new electronic mail options for delivery.

Electronic Billing for ILL Requests: Directors discussed the feasibility of moving away from the current individual billing systems that are used in the region for

payment of ILL requests. As possible models, Heidi Sandstrom, PSRML Network Coordinator, described the electronic fund transfer systems currently being used by two other NN/LM regions. A round table discussion ensued in which directors shared information on the billing/statistical systems currently being used or investigated by the Resource Libraries, and discussed with Ms. Fishel the types of data NLM could provide for a regional system. Many issues would need to be resolved, including the need to integrate data from the various ILL systems used by libraries, such as DOCLINE and OCLC, and the special relationships and situations that affect libraries lending and borrowing practices such as sales tax and special agreements. Nevertheless, the directors agreed that the idea should be pursued and that a small working group of representatives from some of the Resource Libraries should be formed to explore, with PSRML staff, the possibility of developing some type of electronic system to simplify billing, payment, and record keeping.

NOTE: Power-point presentations made at this meeting are available

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Latitudes

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for viewing: to see the slides on which Ms. Fishel based her demonstration, go to this link on NLM's homepage:

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/psd/relais_slides/relais.html; to see Ms. Sandstrom's review of existing RML electronic transfer systems, go to: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/psr/ppt/epay/epay.htm>

Free MEDLINE: The remainder of the meeting covered a variety of topics, starting with the perceived impact of free MEDLINE access now available from NLM through Internet Grateful Med and PUBMED. Most Resource Libraries are beginning to encourage these forms of access, by demonstrating them to patrons, and will be including instruction in their library education programs. With the many access methods now available for MEDLINE searching, there is much confusion. PSRML agreed to put together a page on their Web site which would provide easy access to articles, factsheets, etc. which help users learn more about

the differences between IGM and PUBMED, and how to search them effectively. Several RLs expressed interest in obtaining IGM and PUBMED search training for their staff. In response to similar needs expressed from regional libraries, PSRML staff have recently developed such a class and have begun teaching it, starting with a class for Hawaii librarians; a second class was held in Nevada in late October. Other classes will be scheduled at Resource Libraries in the coming months. Two new classes, to replace the Fundamentals class, will be taught by the National Online Training Center, starting next year (see page 8 for details):

- "Introduction to Web-based Searching for the Librarian and Information Specialist: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to search NLM's Databases" and,
- "Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to search NLM's Databases". ☛

TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS CONFERENCE

Telemedicine and Tele-education

*by Jeanette McCray, Arizona Health Sciences Library
University of Arizona*

Mark your calendars! PSRML and the University of Arizona Health Sciences Library are sponsoring a TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS CONFERENCE on telemedicine and tele-education in Tucson on February 11, 1998. The conference will focus on the uses of telemedicine and tele-education in our region, describe and demonstrate the technologies utilized, highlight the benefits of partnerships in utilizing these technologies and discuss NLM's involvement in this arena. The conference has been scheduled to immediately precede the Joint Meeting of the Medical Library Groups of Southern California and Arizona and Northern California and Nevada on February 12-14, 1998 in Tucson. We hope you'll come to Tucson a day earlier to learn more about this exciting technology!

PSRML ON THE ROAD...



Traveling has always been an integral part of work at the Regional Medical Library. It is an excellent way for staff to not only conduct business but also to keep in touch with the happenings, needs and concerns of Network libraries. PSRML librarians traverse the region to exhibit at conferences, teach classes, demonstrate NLM products and services, answer questions and provide updates. Often the most enjoyable part of a trip is the opportunity to visit libraries, large and small, and experience first hand the amazing range of services all of you provide. With this issue, we start an occasional series of “adventures” which PSRML staff encounter on the road. We hope it will give you a feel for what makes the Pacific Southwest Region so special.

PSRML GOES HAWAIIAN and PACIFIC! *by Claire Hamasu and Heidi Sandstrom*

On September 11-12, Claire Hamasu and Heidi Sandstrom conducted workshops, presented an RML/NLM update, and visited medical libraries in our 50th state, Hawaii. The first two hands-on workshops, for librarians, were hosted by the Hawaii/Pacific Chapter of the Medical Library Association (HPCMLA) at Tripler Army Medical Center Library. The morning workshop on Resource Sharing explored the structure and some of the key features of DOCLINE and its related databases; this was followed by a demonstration of the Online SERHOLD Updating System. The afternoon workshop compared the features of Internet Grateful Med (IGM) and Pub Med with an emphasis on how each can be used for more effective searching. Sandwiched (no pun intended) between these workshops was a luncheon update on Network, Technology, and Outreach developments, both on the national and regional levels, which can enhance information services to health professionals. The HPCMLA meeting was followed by visits to Kapi'olani Medical Center Library and Hawaii Medical Library, in addition to a tour of the Library at Tripler.

Claire and Heidi were pleased to see the new Consumer Health Information Service (CHIS) that

has been developed at Hawaii Medical Library, one of our Region's Resource Libraries. This 5-year community service project officially opened on October 10, 1997, and provides statewide free access to the largest medical library in Hawaii. CHIS has established a service partnership with the Hawaii State Public Library System and with school libraries within the State. Look for more information on this new and innovative service in a future issue of *Latitudes*!

A third workshop was conducted at Kapi'olani Community College for Ke Ola O Hawai'i, Inc. This “Community Partnerships” organization trains future physicians, nurses, social workers and public health professionals in community clinics in order to improve primary care services in Hawaii. In 1996, Ke Ola received an Internet Connections grant from the National Library of Medicine to provide connectivity from its healthcare centers located on the islands of Oahu, Maui and Hawaii. The “Breaking Through the Net” class originally created for librarians was modified for instructing these health professionals. Ke Ola has ordered workstations, and is looking forward to their arrival, so that they can put their newly acquired Internet skills to use! A fourth workshop, “An Introduction to

Internet Grateful Med (IGM)” was conducted to introduce MEDLINE searching to the Ke Ola staff. With these two workshops, Ke Ola had a full day on the Internet!

On Monday, September 15th, which was Sunday, September 14th for the rest of the region, Claire Hamasu attended a meeting of the Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA) in Guam. This part of our Region lies on the other side of the International Date Line. PIHOA is comprised of the decision makers of the governmental health departments in Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau (these are the Pacific islands within our Region's jurisdiction). The Association meets twice a year to share new developments and collaboratively make decisions that affect all the islands. The meeting is also an opportunity for the officers to hear about advances in healthcare from different organizations. Ms. Hamasu was one of the invited speakers and she described the services of the National Library of Medicine, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine and demonstrated some of the resources available on the

(Continued on page 4)

BioSites Evaluation Project

by Beryl Glitz

BioSites (<http://galen.library.ucsf.edu/biosites/>) serves as a Web-based virtual catalog of selected Internet resources in the biomedical sciences and provides descriptive information to help librarians make decisions about the content and quality of the sites listed. The development and maintenance of BioSites has been a cooperative project between PSRML and the Resource Libraries in Region 7 (see *Latitudes* vol. 6, no. 1 for more background information).

BioSites has been in existence now for approximately one year and PSRML is planning to evaluate it from the perspective of both the end user and those who submit information. Starting this fall, the evaluation will be in two parts. Part one will determine the usefulness of the site from the point of view of the user and this will involve a project with the Library & Center for Knowledge Management at the University of

California, San Francisco. The Library will devise and use a method for collecting statistical data from BioSites, on a monthly basis, for six months. The Library will also develop a query mechanism to gather feedback from users during two one-week periods, during the six-month evaluation project.

The second part of the evaluation will involve staff at the Resource Libraries who evaluate Web sites and add them to BioSites. A representative from each library will attend a day-long meeting at UCLA, chaired by the PSRML Associate Director, to discuss various BioSites issues from the perspective of those contributing to the Web resource. This meeting will be held in early 1998, so that statistical information, and results from the first user query will be available to participants. The meeting will include a discussion of:

- Personnel issues: work load,

FTE, and other costs to the Library for data input and maintenance of the site

- Effectiveness: value of the BioSites project to the Resource Libraries
- Efficiency: ease of data input to the site, clarity of criteria, etc.
- Updating: the need for a method of systematically updating BioSites information
- Coverage: adequacy of subject coverage and the need for additional library input
- Future: Long-range plans for continuation and location of BioSites.

This two-part methodology should provide sufficient information to guide PSRML and the Resource Libraries in any future development of BioSites as an effective regional and national tool. PSRML welcomes comments from Network libraries on their need for and use of resources such as BioSites, and suggestions for improving this particular resource. ★

PSRML on the Road, continued from page 3

Internet in order to encourage the participants to support technology infrastructure within their jurisdictions.

If you are interested in obtaining any of the PSRML services mentioned in this article, please contact either Claire Hamasu or Heidi Sandstrom.

Thanks to our gracious hosts in Hawaii and Guam, Claire and Heidi had a wonderful trip to our southernmost latitudes!

Arizona Adventures

by Beryl Glitz

Although it is the U.S. postal service which has long been known for its dedication to service in all weathers, PSRML staff can also encounter some challenging climatic events in their travels. During a recent trip to Arizona, to exhibit at the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers

meeting in Scottsdale, staff had to dodge the threats of Hurricane Nora which was headed their way. In spite of the unusually humid weather and an imminent downpour, Beryl Glitz, Associate Director, and Rikke Greenwald, Network Assistant, were able to visit three libraries at hospitals

in the Phoenix area: Mesa General Hospital, Mesa Lutheran Hospital, and the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale. We appreciate the hospitality of the staff at these libraries: Jude Edelman, Donna Gerometta and Kay Wellick. And we didn't see a drop of rain until the day we left! ★

Internet: A PSRML Distance Education Project

by Claire Hamasu

What do you do when you have 50 staff members spread over eleven Northern California counties? When you want to call regular meetings but have a hard time finding a common time when everyone can make it? When the main office is in Sacramento and some of the branch offices are separated by mountains that are impassable during the winter? If you are the California Department of Health Services (DHS) you envision surpassing geographic and time barriers by using technology and you apply for and receive a grant to test your theory. The California DHS received funding from the Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration to establish a video-conferencing demonstration project.

Once the video-conferencing equipment was installed at the county offices and the project was working well, the Department began looking for other uses for the equipment. Beryl Glitz, Associate Director of PSRML, was a planning committee member of the California Telehealth/Telemedicine Coordination Project. There, she met Gwendoline Doeberbert, Assistant Chief for Health Information and Strategic Planning for the Department of Health Services. And it was a matter of two people being in the right place at the right time.

PSRML was interested in training unaffiliated health professionals in the rural areas to use the Internet. The National Library of Medicine had forged a partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to target public health

professionals and was encouraging the RML's to also target this group. When Ms. Glitz and Ms. Doeberbert met, they knew that the collaboration would further the goals of both organizations. And that is how Heidi Sandstrom and Claire Hamasu found themselves sitting before a video camera on a Thursday afternoon in October teaching the basics of the Internet to a test group of two students and 3 observers.

Establishing the video-conference link with the group in Sacramento from the UCLA School of Public Health in Los Angeles, the instructors were able to share their PowerPoint presentation and the link to the World Wide Web from the School's workstation. For the next two hours, *Breaking through the Net: an Introduction to the Internet for Health Professionals* was taught through lecture, demonstration, and hands-on exercises.

We learned that you can get used to watching yourself on a monitor as you teach. That when you share access to the Web that the site loads much more slowly on the sharing station than on the initiating station. Using a different medium to transmit instruction calls for changes in how the class is taught. PSRML staff will be revising the session based on comments from this test group.

When revisions have been made and Internet connections established, PSRML will be introducing the resources of the Internet to public health nurses and environmental specialists starting with Northern California counties of Mono, Lassen, Glenn and San Benito. ★

EARLY RETURNS!

This past Spring, the National Library of Medicine conducted a survey of all libraries in the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) in order to determine the level of Internet access. Preliminary results of this Internet Survey were reviewed with the eight Regional Medical Libraries during a teleconference in early October. PSRML is now in the process of looking at our Regional data, and developing plans for increasing the level of Internet connectivity among our Network libraries. The final tally shows that 550 of our 619 Network libraries responded to the Survey, resulting in an 89% response rate—the highest of any Region in the NN/LM. Thank you and congratulations! Our Regional data indicate that only 69% of our hospital libraries have Internet access; non-hospital libraries have a substantially higher rate of access. This is fairly consistent with the overall findings nationwide. Look for a full report on the data and PSRML's plans to increase connectivity in the next issue of *Latitudes*. ★

Are Your Reports in the Mail?

by Heidi Sandstrom

PSRML has received a number of calls recently about missing DOCLINE Statistical Reports. When quarterly statistics are in the mail, NLM places a broadcast message on DOCLINE, indicating a date after which participants should call the Service Desk if they have not yet received their reports. Please remember to look for this message early in the quarter for the previous quarter's data. As an alternative to hardcopy reports, libraries can opt to retrieve datasets electronically via FTP. This is a two-step procedure which is outlined in the DOCLINE Pocket Card 1, available on the Web at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/psd/cas/docline/pocket1.html> or from PSRML. Avoid the rush and make sure YOUR reports are in the mail! ★

NLM Online Training Program 1998

Background

On June 26, 1997 NLM announced free Web-based access to MEDLINE through PubMed and Internet Grateful Med. Because of this recent development, the NLM Online Training Program for 1998 will be modified to present several new classes to introduce and train searchers on these two interfaces.

New Classes Offered

- **Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases**

This one-day class is designed for experienced MEDLARS or MEDLINE searchers. It is expected that students attending this class will have familiarity with MEDLINE, MeSH vocabulary and Boolean logic. Those core topics will not be covered in this *Transition* class. The class will examine both the PubMed and Internet Grateful Med search interfaces. It will include information for "translating" functions used by experienced searchers, especially those using ELHILL command language, to methods used by these Web-based interfaces. There will be no charge for this class. It will be taught at sites across the country by the National Online Training Center staff and in Bethesda, MD by NLM personnel.

- **Introduction to Web-based Searching for the Librarian and Information Specialist: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases**

This two-day class is designed for librarians and information specialists who are new to searching MEDLINE. This includes those who have never searched before, or the user with some searching experience but little prior knowledge of the MEDLINE database or the MeSH vocabulary. Students will learn to search MEDLINE via both PubMed and Internet Grateful Med, with emphasis on areas specific to NLM databases,

including the MeSH vocabulary, database fields and creation, and Boolean logic. There will be no charge for this class. It will be taught at sites across the country by the National Online Training Center staff and in Bethesda, MD by NLM personnel.

- **Web-based Searching for the Health Professional: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases**

This two-hour class with workbook is designed for health professional searchers. Librarians and information specialists at hospitals and universities or other facilities may use this workbook to train others. When completed this fall, the workbook will be available for downloading from the NLM Web site; watch for news of availability at NLM's Web site and in the *Technical Bulletin*. This 2-hour workshop and a companion "Train the Trainer" class will be offered later in 1998 by the Regional Medical Libraries. Dates for these classes have not yet been scheduled. Watch for further information from your RML.

Information About Current Classes

- **Fundamentals of MEDLARS Searching**

The *Fundamentals* of MEDLARS Searching two-day class which was previously offered to teach new searchers the ELHILL command language and MEDLINE search techniques will no longer be offered in a classroom setting beginning in 1998. New searchers should register for *Introduction to Web-based Searching for the Librarian and Information Specialist: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases*. There are two training alternatives for the searcher who wishes to learn the ELHILL command language, or to brush up on certain ELHILL features. *The Basics of Searching MEDLINE on ELHILL*, a self-instructional workbook, has been updated and expanded and is available for

downloading via the NLM Web site, at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/osrm_nlm.html. A print alternative (for a fee) is being investigated. Stay tuned for details. This workbook covers all topics currently addressed in the *Fundamentals* class. Non-billed training codes to use in conjunction with the Basics are also available from the National Online Training Center.

There is also a computer-based alternative. The seven computer-based tutorials that are used in the *Fundamentals* class, e.g., MeSH Searching, MEDLINE Data Elements, Text Word Searching, Proximity Searching, are available for downloading via the National Online Training Center home page (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online>). See Downloading Instructions at this address for further information for computer requirements and installation instructions.

- **Chemical/Toxicology/TOXNET Specialized Module**

This two-day class covers NLM's chemical and toxicology files, including TOXNET databases and assumes knowledge of the ELHILL command language. There is no charge for this class. It is taught only at NLM in Bethesda, MD.

- **MEDLARS Refresher & Review (MEDLARS R&R)**

This four-hour workshop will no longer be offered in its present format in 1998. Following the development and debut of our new classes, an update workshop similar to the R&R will be developed. Stay tuned for details in late 1998.

How to Apply

The 1998 training schedule for the *Introduction*, *Transition*, and *Chem/Tox/TOXNET* classes can be found at the end of this article. You may also view the schedule and register online for classes at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online>. Alternatively, you may register for

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(Online Program, continued from page 6)

classes by completing the Request for NLM Online Training form found at the end of this article. Registration for these classes should be sent to the National Online Training Center located in New York, NY at the New York Academy of Medicine. The address and fax number are provided on the registration form.

Every attempt will be made to place training applicants in the class requested. If a class is filled, the applicants will be registered for their second choice, and also automatically placed on a waiting list for their first choice. Approximately one month prior to the class, registrants will receive a packet with information on hotels, local site arrangements and the class agenda. All classes are considered "tentative" pending sufficient enrollment one month before the class.

Questions/More Information

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the National Online Training Center or the MEDLARS Service Desk as follows:

E-mail: notc@nyam.org
mms@nlm.nih.gov

Phone: National Online Training Center
 800-338-7657 (press 2) or
 212-822-7396

MEDLARS Service Desk
 888-FINDNLM
 (888-346-3656)

Web Site: <http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online>

A full description of these changes as well as Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are available at the Web site.

—prepared by Janet Zipser
 MEDLARS Management Section

THE NATIONAL ONLINE TRAINING STAFF

The National Online Training Center in New York currently has three trainers traveling throughout the United States conducting classes. (The MEDLARS Management Staff at NLM conducts the classes held in Bethesda, MD.) We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the New York staff.

MAUREEN K. CZUJAK, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Maureen K. Czujak has worked in hospital, academic medical centers, the private sector and the government during her long career. Maureen is currently the Assistant Director of the National Online Training Program and has been with the online training program at The New York Academy of Medicine since November, 1988. She has been providing online training since 1985. The Assistant Director has attended online training classes taught at NLM and has been searching the MEDLARS system for over 20 years. Her previous experience included presentations, classes and exhibits involving the Georgetown Library Information System and Georgetown's IAIMS grant. She was a trainer for the Department of Defense, teaching Air Force personnel library skills, how to search and use the ARPANET and other defense/military databases. In addition, she currently teaches computer skills and several software applications to adult learners.

ANDREW HAMILTON, ONLINE ANALYST

Andrew came to the National Online Training Center from the

Reference Department of the New York Academy of Medicine Library, where he worked as a Clinical Medicine Information Specialist from 1993 to 1996. Andrew graduated in 1993 with an M.L.S./M.S.-Pharmaceutical Sciences from the Double Master's Program for Drug Information Specialists offered by St. John's University. He was selected by his professors in the Library Division as Student of the Year for 1993. Originally from Portland, Oregon, Andrew graduated from Oregon State University with Bachelors' Degrees in Microbiology and Genetics in 1985. In 1986, he was awarded a Molecular Biology Fellowship from the University of Utah, where he completed the core curriculum and lab rotations in their Ph.D. program. He decided that it was time to look for a career beyond the laboratory when he came to the conclusion that his favorite piece of glassware, out of all the ones he encountered in the laboratory, was his coffee mug. Andrew is involved with the Pharmacy & Drug Information Special Interest Group of the Medical Library Association. He has served as the editor of the section's newsletter, PDI Alert, since 1995.

CHARLES RAPISARDA, ONLINE ASSISTANT

Charles started with the RML in November of 1993. This is his first position in a Medical Library environment. For most of his working years he had been employed mainly in the freight moving business, domestic and foreign. When his last company moved to Chicago, he thought it was time for a change. A course in Medical Terminology and

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Billing somehow led to filling out an application for employment with the New York Academy of Medicine. He was accepted and has been here ever since. He's into painting and recording music off the radio - mostly jazz and classical.

MARY VAN ANTWERP, ONLINE ANALYST

Mary joined the Middle Atlantic Region's RML in September, 1994 as an Online Analyst. Mary is currently a member of the NN/LM web team, representing the National Online Training Center, a member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals and MLA's Frank Bradway Rogers Information Advancement Awards Jury. Mary had a previous career as a medical technologist, working in hematology labs in Oregon and Colorado, before attending the University of Texas-Austin to pursue a Masters in Library and Information Science. Before moving to New York, Mary worked at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha as the Online Services Coordinator. When in New York, Mary enjoys classical music, theater, and ballet.

*—prepared by the National
Online Center staff*

NLM Online Services Training Schedule 1998

Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases 1998

- Designed for the experienced MEDLARS or MEDLINE searcher. Familiarity with MEDLINE, the MeSH vocabulary, the MeSH Tools, and Boolean logic is required.
- Will examine both the PubMed and Grateful Med search interfaces, providing information on "translating" ELHILL commands, fields, and functions into a format that can be used on these Web-based interfaces.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
Jan 16	Nashville, TN	Jul 22	Louisville, KY
Jan 23	Baltimore, MD	Jul 27	Bethesda, MD
Jan 28	San Antonio, TX	Jul 31	New York, NY
Feb 6	Houston, TX	Aug 7	Kansas City, KS
Feb 9	Bethesda, MD	Aug 12	Portland, OR
Feb 20	Omaha, NE	Aug 20	Farmington, CT
Feb 27	Indianapolis, IN		
Mar 4	New York, NY	Sep11	Minneapolis, MN
Mar 9	Bethesda, MD	Sep 16	Los Angeles, CA
Mar 11	Charleston, SC	Sep 25	Buffalo, NY
Mar 20	Los Angeles, CA	Sep 28	Bethesda, MD
Mar 25	Ann Arbor, MI		
Apr 8	Boston, MA	Oct 7	Tucson, AZ
Apr 17	Birmingham, AL	Oct 16	New York, NY
Apr 20	Bethesda, MD	Oct 28	Houston, TX
Apr 22	Seattle, WA		
May 6	Atlanta, GA	Nov 9	Bethesda, MD
May 20	New York, NY	Nov 10	Chicago, IL
		Nov 18	Omaha, NE
Jun10	Lexington, KY	Dec 11	Chapel Hill, NC
Jun 19	Chicago, IL	Dec 16	Seattle, WA
Jun 22	Bethesda, MD		
Jun 24	Fort Worth, TX		

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(Online Training Schedule, continued from page 8.)

Introduction to Web-based Searching for the Librarian and Information Specialist: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases 1998

- Designed for individuals who are new to searching MEDLINE OR who have never searched before OR who have some search experience but little prior knowledge of the MEDLINE database or the MeSH vocabulary.
- Will examine both the PubMed and Grateful Med Search interfaces, teaching users how to search MEDLINE, including the structure and content of the database, the MeSH controlled vocabulary, the use of the printed MeSH tools, and Boolean logic.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
Jan 12-13	New York, NY	Jul 13-14	Bethesda, MD
Jan 14-15	Nashville, TN	Jul 20-21	Louisville, KY
Jan 21-22	Baltimore, MD	Jul 29-30	New York, NY
Jan 26-27	Bethesda, MD		
Jan 26-27	San Antonio, TX		
Feb 4-5	Houston, TX	Aug 5-6	Kansas City, KS
Feb 18-19	Omaha, NE	Aug 10-11	Portland, OR
Feb 23-24	Bethesda, MD	Aug 18-19	Farmington, CT
Feb 25-26	Indianapolis, IN		
Mar 9-10	Charleston, SC	Sep 9-10	Minneapolis, MN
Mar 18-19	Los Angeles, CA	Sep 14-15	Bethesda, MD
Mar 23-24	Ann Arbor, MI	Sep 14-15	Los Angeles, CA
Mar 23-24	Bethesda, MD	Sep 23-24	Buffalo, NY
Apr 2-3	St. Louis, MO	Oct 5-6	Tucson, AZ
Apr 6-7	Boston, MA	Oct 14-15	New York, NY
Apr 15-16	Birmingham, AL	Oct 19-20	Bethesda, MD
Apr 20-21	Seattle, WA	Oct 26-27	Houston, TX
Apr 27-28	Bethesda, MD		
May 4-5	Baltimore, MD	Nov 12-13	Chicago, IL
May 7-8	Atlanta, GA	Nov 16-17	Bethesda, MD
May 18-19	New York, NY	Nov 16-17	Omaha, NE
Jun 8-9	Lexington, KY	Dec 9-10	Chapel Hill, NC
Jun 15-16	Bethesda, MD	Dec 14-15	Seattle, WA
Jun 17-18	Chicago, IL		
Jun 22-23	Fort Worth, TX		

Chem/Tox/TOXNET Specialized Module 1998

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
Feb 25-26	Bethesda, MD	Sep 16-17	Bethesda, MD
Jun 17-18	Bethesda, MD	Nov 18-19	Bethesda, MD

REQUEST FOR NLM ONLINE TRAINING

Trainee Name: _____ Phone: (_____) _____ x _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful to Search NLM's Databases

Dates/Sites Requested: _____
 1st Choice 2nd Choice

Introduction to Web-based Searching for the Librarian and Information Specialist: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases

Dates/Sites Requested: _____
 1st Choice 2nd Choice

Chemical/Toxicology/TOXNET Specialized Module

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MAILING/FAXING INSTRUCTIONS:

National Online Training Center
The New York Academy of Medicine
1216 Fifth Ave.
New York, NY 10029-5293

FAX: 212-534-7042
Questions? 800-338-7657 (press 2)
212-822-7396

Have access to the World Wide Web? You may register for classes via the Web at: <http://www.nlm.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online>

Location Codes to be Deleted from SERLINE®

The following fields will be removed from SERLINE effective with the October 1997 update:

Regional Locator Codes (L1-L8)

Regional Locator Counts (K1-K8)

Region (RG)

The data in the SERLINE locator fields is no longer current and will not be updated due to technical constraints. Current holdings information is available via SERHOLD[®], which serves as the basis for DOCLINE[®], NLM's online interlibrary loan request and referral system for health sciences libraries. Descriptive information about libraries and other organizations which use NLM's Interlibrary Loan (ILL) services or are a part of the Regional Document Delivery Network is provided by the DOCUSER (DOCUMENT DELIVERY USER) database.

Discontinuation of Abridged Index Medicus (AIM)

The National Library of Medicine's monthly publication, *Abridged Index Medicus* (AIM) will cease following the Volume 28, Number 12, (December 1997) issue.

The *Abridged Index Medicus* was initiated in 1970 to "afford rapid access to selected biomedical journal literature of immediate interest to the practicing physician" when online services were not readily available. A subset of citations from 119 English language clinical journals indexed for *Index Medicus* was selected for AIM. The publication was of value to the community over the years; at

one point, over two thousand libraries, clinics, colleges, and individuals subscribed to the monthly issues and the annual cumulations. During the past 20 years, however, an increasing number of subscribers have been accessing the data from electronic resources, and subscriptions to the printed product have declined.

Since there are many demands on Federal dollars, the National Library of Medicine must make some difficult choices concerning the support of existing products versus the improvement and development of new products. NLM Associate

Director for Library Operations, Lois Ann Colaianni, realizes that some find the AIM particularly useful; and she will be happy to explore alternatives for this information with such individuals. She may be contacted via email, loisann@nlm.nih.gov.

The "AIM" tag, which limits MEDLINE search retrieval to articles in the clinical journal subset, has been an especially useful method for narrowing online searches. NLM will retain the tag for AIM journals in its database until another alternative is found for meeting this need.★



1998 MeSH ® Tools - Ordering and Pricing Information

The 1998 MeSH Tools may now be ordered from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) with delivery expected in October. Questions concerning orders may be directed to NTIS at 800-423-9255. Callers from outside the U.S. or Canada may reach NTIS at 703-487-4650. Questions about standing orders should be directed to NTIS Subscription Section at 703-487-4630.

Orders may be placed in the following ways:

Phone: 800-423-9255 or 703-487-4650
TDD: 703-487-4639
Fax: 703-321-8547
Web site: <http://www.ntis.gov/ordernow>

E-mail:
orders@ntis.fedworld.gov

If you are concerned about Internet security you may register your credit card at NTIS by calling 703-487-4682. If you need a paper form to place your order, you may download a pdf file from <http://www.ntis.gov/ordering.htm> or you may call NTIS, at 800-423-9255, to have a form mailed to you.

Medical Subject Headings — Annotated Alphabetic List, 1998

Single Demand Order Number: PB98-964801
NTIS Standing Order Number: PB98-964800
Hardcopy Price:
\$49.95 (U.S./Canada/Mexico)

\$99.90 (other countries)

Medical Subject Headings — Tree Structures, 1998

Single Demand Order Number: PB98-964901
NTIS Standing Order Number: PB98-964900
Hardcopy Price:
\$44.95 (U.S./Canada/Mexico)
\$89.90 (other countries)

Permuted Medical Subject Headings, 1998

Single Demand Order Number: PB98-965101
NTIS Standing Order Number: PB98-965100
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\$40.95 (U.S./Canada/Mexico)
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NLM manuals now available via FTP

Online Services Reference Manual		
All chapters are available in wp, pdf, and ps formats.		
Chapter 2	Telecommunications (rev 8/97)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/telecomm
Chapter 3	Searching with ELHILL (rev 3/97)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/elhill
Chapter 4	Offsearch, Storesearch, Save, Savesearch, Sort (rev 12/96)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/storsave
Chapter 6	MEDLINE, SDILINE, MEDLINE BACKFILES (rev 3/97)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/medline
Chapter 8	AIDSLINE database (rev 2/97)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/aids1man
Chapter 13	PREMEDLINE Database (new)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/premedl
Chapter 14	Cancerlit Database (rev 4/97)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/cancerlit
Chapter 19	DIRLINE Database (rev 3/97)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/dir1man
Chapter 20	DOCUSER (rev 5/94)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/docuser
Chapter 35	RTECS Database (rev 3/97)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/rtecs
Chapter 36	TRI Databases (rev 3/94)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/tri
Chapter 37	TRIFACTS Databases (rev3/94)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/medlars/manuals/trifacts
DOCLINE Manual		
Chapter 1	Table of Contents and Overview (This chapter has not been revised)	ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/docline/dlmtocov.txt ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/online/docline/dlmtocov.wp
NICHSR INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH - CLASS MANUAL (10/96)		
		ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/nlminfo/newsletters/reports/hsrihcm.txt

Upcoming Events

February 1998

- 11** Technology Awareness Conference on
Telemedicine & Tele-education
Tucson, Arizona
- 12-14** MLGSCA/NCNMLG Joint Meeting
Tucson, Arizona

March 1998

- 18-19** *Introduction to Web-based Searching...*
Los Angeles, CA
- 20** *Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med...*
Los Angeles, CA

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